

VETERINARY MEDICINE BOARD[811]

Adopted and Filed

Rule making related to disclosure of patient records

The Board of Veterinary Medicine hereby amends Chapter 12, “Standards of Practice,” Iowa Administrative Code.

Legal Authority for Rule Making

This rule making is adopted under the authority provided in Iowa Code section 169.5.

State or Federal Law Implemented

This rule making implements, in whole or in part, Iowa Code section 169.5.

Purpose and Summary

This amendment allows veterinarians to disclose patient records when the law authorizes or requires them to disclose such information.

Public Comment and Changes to Rule Making

Notice of Intended Action for this rule making was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on December 2, 2020, as **ARC 5297C**. No public comments were received. No changes from the Notice have been made.

Adoption of Rule Making

This rule making was adopted by the Board on January 28, 2021.

Fiscal Impact

This rule making has no fiscal impact to the State of Iowa.

Jobs Impact

After analysis and review of this rule making, no impact on jobs has been found.

Waivers

Any person who believes that the application of the discretionary provisions of this rule making would result in hardship or injustice to that person may petition the Board for a waiver of the discretionary provisions, if any, pursuant to 811—Chapter 14.

Review by Administrative Rules Review Committee

The Administrative Rules Review Committee, a bipartisan legislative committee which oversees rule making by executive branch agencies, may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this rule making at its [regular monthly meeting](#) or at a special meeting. The Committee’s meetings are open to the public, and interested persons may be heard as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.8(6).

Effective Date

This rule making will become effective on March 31, 2021.

The following rule-making action is adopted:

Amend subrule 12.4(2), introductory paragraph, as follows:

12.4(2) *Patient records.* Veterinary medical records are an integral part of veterinary care. Medical records are the property of the veterinary practice. Each licensed veterinarian shall maintain for at least five years an easily retrievable record for each patient that receives veterinary services. The record must be available for inspection by the client during normal business hours. The information within veterinary medical records is privileged and confidential and shall not be released except by court order, a public health emergency, ~~or~~ consent of the client, or as otherwise authorized by law. The licensed veterinarian in charge shall provide a copy of the complete record to the client not later than two business days after the licensed veterinarian or practice receives from the client a request for the record. A licensed veterinarian or veterinary practice may have an additional three business days to provide a copy of nondigital diagnostic images. The licensed veterinarian may charge reasonable and customary fees for the copying of records.

[Filed 1/29/21, effective 3/31/21]

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EDITOR'S NOTE: For replacement pages for IAC, see IAC Supplement 2/24/21.